

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Matthew Witsil (Reg. No. 47,183) on 10/01/2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

AMEND CLAIM 1 AS FOLLOWS:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An interface module for an electronic device, comprising:

a card including a card body and at least one component selected from the group including memory, a processor, and a power source, ~~and~~ the card body having a longitudinal axis and electrical contacts spaced along the longitudinal axis that extend continuously over at least one half of the periphery around the card body, wherein the card body has a cross-sectional shape other than one bounded by substantially parallel major surfaces; and

a head at one end of the card body, the head extending outward from the longitudinal axis of the card body a greater distance than the card body.

AMEND CLAIM 2 AS FOLLOWS:

Claim 2 (currently amended): The interface module of claim 1, wherein the cross-sectional shape of the card body is substantially circular.

AMEND CLAIM 3 AS FOLLOWS:

Claim 3 (currently amended): The interface module of claim 1, wherein the cross-sectional shape of the card body is substantially elliptical.

AMEND CLAIM 5 AS FOLLOWS:

Claim 5 (currently amended): The interface module of claim 1, wherein the electrical contacts on the card body extend completely around the periphery of the card body.

CANCEL CLAIM 6:

AMEND CLAIM 7 AS FOLLOWS:

Claim 7 (currently amended): The interface module of claim 6 1, wherein the cross-sectional shape of the head is selected from the group comprising substantially circular, substantially elliptical, and a shape having at least three substantially straight sides.

AMEND CLAIM 8 AS FOLLOWS:

Claim 8 (currently amended): An interface module for an electronic device, comprising:

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a card including a card body and at least one component selected from the group including memory, a processor, and a power source, ~~and~~ the card body having a longitudinal axis and electrical contacts spaced along the longitudinal axis that extend continuously over at least one half of the periphery around the card body, wherein the card body has a cross-sectional shape that is substantially rectangular and other than substantially planar, and wherein a substantially planar shape is one having a height to width ratio of less than approximately 0.5; and

a head at one end of the card body, the head extending outward from the longitudinal axis of the card body a greater distance than the card body.

AMEND CLAIM 12 AS FOLLOWS:

Claim 12 (currently amended): The interface module of claim 8, wherein the electrical contacts on the card body extend completely around the periphery of the card body.

CANCEL CLAIM 13:**AMEND CLAIM 15 AS FOLLOWS:**

Claim 15 (currently amended): An interface module for an electronic device, comprising;

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a card including a card body and at least one component selected from the group including memory, a processor, and a power source, ~~and~~ the card body having a longitudinal axis and electrical contacts spaced along the longitudinal axis that extend continuously over at least one half of the periphery around the card body, wherein the cross-sectional shape of the card body is selected from the group including substantially circular, substantially elliptical, substantially rectangular and other than substantially planar and having a height to width ratio of at least 0.5, and a shape other than a rectangle having at least three substantially straight sides; and
a head at one end of the card body, the head extending outward from the longitudinal axis of the card body a greater distance than the card body.

CANCEL CLAIMS 16-28:***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments, submitted 09/02/2008 , as well as, claim amendments made during an Interview with Applicant's Representative on 10/01/2008, the Summary attached herewith ,have been fully considered and are persuasive. Thus, upon conclusion of a comprehensive search of the pertinent prior art, the Office indicates that the claims, as amended, are allowable.

Allowable Subject Matter

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Claims 1-3, 5, 7,8,12, and 15 (Renumbered 1-8) are allowable.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The claims, as amended herein, are allowable for the following reasons:

Regarding independent claim 1, patentability exists, at least in part, with the claimed features of wherein the card body has a cross-sectional shape other than one bounded by substantially parallel major surfaces; and a head at one end of the card body, the head extending outward from the longitudinal axis of the card body a greater distance than the card body.

Regarding independent claim 8, patentability exists, at least in part, with the claimed features of wherein the card body has a cross-sectional shape that is substantially rectangular and other than substantially planar, and wherein a substantially planar shape is one having a height to width ratio of less than approximately 0.5; and a head at one end of the card body, the head extending outward from the longitudinal axis of the card body a greater distance than the card body.

Regarding independent claim 15, patentability exists, at least in part, with the claimed features of wherein the cross-sectional shape of the card body is selected from the group including substantially circular, substantially elliptical, substantially rectangular and other than substantially planar and having a height to width ratio of at least 0.5, and a shape other than a rectangle having at least three substantially straight sides; and a head at one end of the card body, the head extending outward from the longitudinal axis of the card body a greater distance than the card body.

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Flies US Patents 4659915 and 4326125, Waring et al US Patent 7158008, Okuyama US Patent 6445593 and Sasaki et al US Patent 4845452 are all cited as teaching some elements of the claimed invention including a body and at least one component selected from the group including memory, a processor, and a power source, the body having a longitudinal axis and electrical contacts spaced along the longitudinal axis that extend continuously over at least one half of the periphery around the body.

The pertinent prior art, however, cannot be construed as fairly teaching or suggesting all of the elements of the claimed invention as arranged, disposed, or provided in the manner as claimed by the Applicant.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DAMEON E. LEVI whose telephone number is (571)272-2105. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Thurs. (9:00 - 5:00) IFP, Fridays Telework.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dean Reichard can be reached on (571) 272-1984. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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